

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 22797 01 OF 02 100914Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 PA-02 ICA-20 NSC-05 /055 W
-----024678 100937Z /11

R 100848Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9093

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 BANGKOK 22797

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PDIP
SUBJECT: PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS

REF: BANGKOK 22716

1. AMBASSADOR PRESENTED HIS CREDENTIALS TO THE KING
ON AUGUST 9 (REFTEL). AMBASSADOR ACCOMPANIED BY DCM,
PAO, DIRECTOR OF USAID, COUNSELOR FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS,
CHIEF OF CONSULAR SECTION, DAO, AND CHIEF JUSMAG.

2. TEXT OF AMBASSADOR'S SPEECH AS FOLLOWS:

YOUR MAJESTY:

I HAVE THE HONOR TO PRESENT TO YOUR MAJESTY THE LETTER
OF RECALL OF MY PREDECESSOR, AMBASSADOR CHARLES S.
WHITEHOUSE, AND THE LETTER OF CREDENCE FROM THE PRESIDENT
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA TO YOUR MAJESTY
ACCREDITING ME AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND
PLENIPOTENTIARY. I BRING TO YOUR MAJESTY AND THE PEOPLE
OF THAILAND WARM PERSONAL EXPRESSIONS OF GOOD WILL AND
HIGH ESTEEM FROM PRESIDENT CARTER AND THE SINCERE,
FRIENDLY GOODYHES OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

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YOUR MAJESTY, I HAVE BEEN FORTUNATE TO HAVE BEEN ABLE TO
VISIT THAILAND ON A NUMBER OF OCCASIONS OVER THE PAST
FIFTEEN YEARS. IT IS A GREAT PERSONAL PRIVILEGE AND
HONOR FOR ME TO BE ACCREDITED NOW TO REPRESENT MY
COUNTRY IN THIS NATION WITH WHICH THE UNITED STATES HAS
ENJOYED SUCH A LONG AND COOPERATIVE RELATIONSHIP. I
ANTICIPATE WITH PLEASURE LIVING IN THAILAND. I LOOK

FORWARD TO DEEPENING MY KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF

THIS GREAT NATION AND WILL DO MY BEST TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE FURTHER ENRICHMENT OF OUR RELATIONSHIP, WHICH FOR MORE THAN A CENTURY HAS BEEN MARKED BY HARMONY AND FRIENDSHIP AND A COMMON DESIRE FOR PEACE, INDEPENDENCE, AND FREEDOM.

THAILAND HAS HAD A LONG AND ILLUSTRIOUS HISTORY OF INDEPENDENCE. TODAY THAILAND FACES NEW CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF A VASTLY CHANGED SOUTHEAST ASIA. WE APPLAUD THAILAND'S EFFORTS TO PROMOTE PEACE AND STABILITY WITH ITS NEIGHBORS. WE ARE IMPRESSED WITH THE EFFORTS OF THAILAND AND ITS ASEAN NEIGHBORS TO DEVELOP REGIONAL COOPERATION AND COHESION. I AM ESPECIALLY PLEASED TO BE HERE DURING THIS PERIOD OF NEW OPPORTUNITY TO WORK FOR PEACE AND COOPERATION IN THE AREA.

THAILAND AND THE UNITED STATES HAVE COOPERATED CLOSELY IN THE PAST. WE WILL CONTINUE TO DO SO IN THE FUTURE EVEN AS OUR FORMS OF COOPERATION EVOLVE WITH CHANGING CIRCUMSTANCES. WE PLACE GREAT IMPORTANCE ON THAILAND'S CONTINUED SECURITY AND WELL-BEING. WE APPLAUD THAILAND'S IMPRESSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS AND ITS INTENT ON IMPROVING THE LIVELIHOOD OF ITS FARM POPULATION, AN UNCLASSIFIED

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EFFORT IN WHICH I KNOW YOUR MAJESTY HAS A GREAT PERSONAL INTEREST. WE BELIEVE THERE ARE OPPORTUNITIES FOR FUTURE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC COOPERATION IN A WIDE VARIETY OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL FIELDS. WE WANT TO WORK CLOSELY WITH YOU ON FURTHER COMBATTING THE MENACE OF INTERNATIONAL NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING. WE HAVE AND WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK JOINTLY HUMANE SOLUTIONS TO DEAL WITH THE TRAGIC PLIGHT OF INDOCHINESE REFUGEES. WE WANT TO STRENGTHEN THE PRIVATE BONDS BETWEEN OUR PEOPLES ESTABLISHED BY OUR BUSINESSMEN AND BY THE THOUSANDS OF AMERICANS AND THAIS WHO HAVE TRAVELED AND STUDIED IN EACH OTHER'S LANDS, BONDS WHICH PROVIDE A STRONG UNDERPINNING TO OUR OFFICIAL TIES.

EAST ASIA AND THE PACIFIC IS AN AREA OF FUNDAMENTAL IMPORTANCE TO THE UNITED STATES. PRESIDENT CARTER HAS MADE IT ABUNDANTLY CLEAR THAT WE ARE DEEPLY COMMITTED TO THE REGION, THAT WE INTEND TO PLAY A CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE HERE, AND THAT WE WILL RETAIN IN THE PACIFIC OUR MAJOR DEFENSE CAPABILITIES. THE VISIT EARLIER THIS YEAR OF VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE REFLECTS THIS CONTINUING INTEREST IN THIS REGION. WE ARE DEVOTED TO WORKING TOGETHER

WITH THAILAND AND OTHER COUNTRIES IN ASIA IN FINDING
WORKABLE AND MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL SOLUTIONS TO THE BASIC
PROBLEMS FACING THIS REGION. IN THIS REGARD WE ATTACH
GREAT IMPORTANCE TO THE CONTINUED PROGRESS OF ASEAN.
THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED U.S.-ASEAN MINISTERIAL
CONSULTATIONS IN WASHINGTON SHOULD LEAD TO GREATER
COOPERATION IN THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT OF
THE AREA.

IN ASSUMING MY DUTIES AS AMERICAN AMBASSADOR, I DEDICATE
MYSELF TO BUILDING UPON THE CONFIDENCE, TRUST AND
FRIENDSHIP WHICH HAS CHARACTERIZED OUR RELATIONS THROUGHOUT
THE YEARS. I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE BONDS THAT UNDERLINE

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OUR RELATIONS WILL GROW EVEN STRONGER IN THE COMING
YEARS. MY ENERGIES, YOUR MAJESTY, WILL BE DEVOTED TO
THAT END.

3. TEXT OF KING'S REPLY AS FOLLOWS:

EXCELLENCY:

I AM PLEASED TO RECEIVE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA YOUR LETTERS OF CREDENCE
AND THE LETTERS OF RECALL OF YOUR PREDECESSOR.

I WISH TO THANK HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT CARTER AND THE
PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR THE KIND
SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED TO ME AND TO THE THAI PEOPLE. I
WOULD LIKE TO OFFER, IN RETURN, MY BEST WISHES FOR THE
PERSONAL GOOD HEALTH AND HAPPINESS OF HIS EXCELLENCY
THE PRESIDENT AS WELL AS FOR THE INCREASING WELFARE

AND PROSPERITY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND HER PEOPLE.

I FEEL GRATIFIED TO NOTE YOUR REMARKS CONCERNING THE PROGRESS AND SECURITY OF THAILAND. WHAT HAS BEEN ACHIEVED HAS BEEN THE DIRECT RESULT OF THE HIGHLY CONCERTED EFFORTS UNDERTAKEN BY THE THAI GOVERNMENT AND UNCLASSIFIED

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PEOPLE IN STRIVING TO THE UTMOST AND CONTINUOUSLY TO DEVELOP OUR COUNTRY AS WELL AS TO FIND MEANS OF SOLVING THE PROBLEMS AND COMBATTING THE DIFFICULTIES FACING US, COMBINED WITH THE CLOSE COOPERATION GIVEN TO US BY VARIOUS FRIENDLY COUNTRIES. IN THIS MATTER, I WOULD LIKE TO THANK YOUR GOVERNMENT FOR ALL KINDS OF USEFUL SUPPORTS AND COOPERATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN GIVEN WITH SYMPATHY AND GOODWILL TO THAILAND. THE AMERICAN AND THAI PEOPLES INDEED HAVE VERY SIMILAR BELIEFS AND IDEOLOGIES IN MATTERS OF FREEDOM, INDEPENDENCE AND JUSTICE. FOR THAT REASON, I AM CONFIDENT THAT THE COOPERATION IN VARIOUS FIELDS BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES ON THE BASIS OF FRIENDSHIP AND FOR MUTUAL BENEFITS WILL HELP TO STRENGTHEN EVEN MORE THE FRIENDLY RELATIONS AND GOOD UNDERSTANDING NOW FIRMLY EXISTING ALREADY BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF THE TWO NATIONS, AND WILL BESIDES BE OF CONTRIBUTION TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF PEACE IN THIS WORLD SO THAT MANKIND ALL OVER WILL BE ABLE TO CO-EXIST IN HAPPINESS AND FOREVER INCREASING PROSPERITY.

I AM VERY MUCH APPRECIATIVE OF YOUR AVOWED PROMISE THAT YOU WILL DO YOUR BEST TO PROMOTE AND STRENGTHEN THE CLOSE TIES OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, AND ESPECIALLY THAT YOU AND YOUR GOVERNMENT WILL COOPERATE CLOSELY WITH THAILAND IN THE AREAS OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS. IN THIS TASK, YOU CAN REST ASSURED THAT YOU WILL RECEIVE MY FULL SUPPORT AND THAT THE THAI AUTHORITIES WILL ACCORD YOU ALL POSSIBLE FACILITIES AND ASSISTANCE FOR THE FULFILLMENT OF YOUR MISSION. ABRAMOWITZ

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